



Course Information and Rules

Requirements for Successful Completion of U.S. and AT U.S. History

1. Regular attendance, with all relevant books, handouts, notebooks, and writing instruments, in hand and/or properly filed in your binder. Note that all students must have a 3-ring binder filled with lined paper and separators labeled "Class Notes," "Assigned Readings," "Reading Notes," "Returned Assignments, and "Other Handouts." The assembled binder will be checked and graded periodically throughout the year, so students must keep their binders in good order.
2. Full and active participation during each class session.
3. On-time completion of all readings and assignments. Try to read for understanding rather than obligation.
4. Productive leadership of full class and small group discussions.
5. Mastery and application of research and analytical skills for understanding primary and secondary sources.
6. Visible effort and measurable improvement in writing, proofreading, and self-editing skills.
7. Successful completion of the various assignments designed to help students synthesize course material, including worksheets, in-class lecture notes, in-class and take-home essays and objective tests, primary and secondary source document analysis, and research papers.
8. Students who are allowed extended time for tests, quizzes, and other in-class evaluations must speak to the instructor at least three days in advance of each exam to set up alternative arrangements, and must complete the evaluation on the same day as the rest of the class.
9. Students who are absent for an in-class evaluation must complete the evaluation by the end of the second day after they return to school.
10. Extra Credit (XC): It is not necessary to do *any* extra credit to do well in this class. Students may earn XC in the following ways: by submitting items for *History in the News*; *The Proofreaders' Hall of Shame*; or *Historical and Hysterical*; and by turning in any written assignment more than 24 hours in advance. At certain times during the year, with the permission of the instructor, students can also earn XC by attending pre-agreed upon lectures or programs, and/or by writing one-page reviews of films from the *Immersion Options* list. Instructor permission is necessary for both of these XC options.